

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 00456

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SHUM
SUBJ: 34TH SESSION HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION: UK INTERVEN-
TION ON HUMAN RIGHTS IN CAMBODIA

REF: GENEVA 00364

1. UK MISSION REQUESTED MEETING WITH MISOFF TO CONSULT ABOUT UK INTENTION TO RAISE SUBJECT OF HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN CAMBODIA UNDER ITEM 12 OF THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA OF THE 34TH HRC. THE UK DRAFT NOTE (AT END OF THIS TEXT) WILL BE CIRCULATED PRIOR TO THE SESSION.
2. IN ADDITION TO THE NOTE, DURING THE SESSION THE UK DELEGATION WILL DISTRIBUTE DOSSIERS TO HRC MEMBERS DESCRIBING SOME OF THE VIOLATIONS WHICH HAVE OCCURRED IN CAMBODIA. ACCORDING TO UK MISOFF, INFORMATION FOR THESE DOSSIERS IS BEING PROVIDED BY THE DEPARTMENT TO THE UK EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON.
3. TO GAIN SUPPORT ON THIS ISSUE, THE UK IS CONSIDERING
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LOBBYING THE FOLLOWING CAPITALS: BRAZIL, COLOMBIA, CYPRUS, EGYPT, IRAN, IVORY COAST, JORDAN, LESOTHO, NIGERIA, PAKISTAN, PANAMA, PERU, SENEGAL, TURKEY AND URUGUAY. MOST WEO'S HAVE ALREADY BEEN CONTACTED.

4. MISOFF POINTED OUT THAT BRAZIL, IRAN AND URUGUAY MAY BE LESS THAN SUPPORTIVE OF THIS INITIATIVE SINCE ALL

THREE HAVE BEEN UNDER ATTACK FROM NGO'S ABOUT HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS.

5. WHEN ASKED IF THE UNITED STATES WOULD BE WILLING TO CO-SPONSOR A RESOLUTION ON THIS ISSUE, WE REPLIED THAT OUR SUPPORT MIGHT OR MIGHT NOT BE HELPFUL AND WE WOULD DO WHATEVER IS BEST IN THE LIGHT OF TACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS.

6. GENEVA WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT'S COMMENTS ON THIS ISSUE SO THEY CAN BE PASSED TO UK MISSION. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF UK DRAFT NOTE:

A. THE PERMANENT MISSION OF THE UNITED KINGDOM TO THE UNITED NATIONS' OFFICE AT GENEVA PRESENTS ITS COMPLIMENTS TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND HAS THE HONOUR TO INFORM HIM THAT THE UNITED KINGDOM DELEGATION TO THE 34TH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS INTEND TO RAISE THE SUBJECT OF REPORTS OF VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN DEMOCRATIC KAMPUCHEA UNDER ITEM 12 OF THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA RELATING TO "QUESTIONS OF THE VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS IN ANY PART OF THE WORLD."

B. THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED KINGDOM IS DEEPLY CONCERNED AT THE MANY REPORTS OF SYSTEMATIC AND WIDESPREAD VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN DEMOCRATIC KAMPUCHEA SINCE APRIL 1975. BY THEIR SCALE AND NATURE THE VIOLATIONS APPEAR TO REVEAL FLAGRANT DISREGARD FOR THE
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FUNDAMENTAL STANDARDS LAID DOWN IN THE
UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS.

C. IN THE OPINION OF THE UNITED KINGDOM GOVERNMENT THE SITUATION IN DEMOCRATIC KAMPUCHEA IS ONE TO WHICH THE COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS SHOULD DEVOTE CAREFUL ATTENTION UNDER THIS ITEM. THE PERMANENT MISSION OF THE UNITED KINGDOM WOULD BE OBLIGED IF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL COULD CIRCULATE THIS NOTE AS AN OFFICIAL DOCUMENT OF THE COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS.

D. THE PERMANENT MISSION OF THE UNITED KINGDOM TAKES THIS OCCASION ETC. VANDEN HEUVEL

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